

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AF-10 /106 W
-----026029 010614Z /11
R 311505Z JUL 78
FM USINT HAVANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2671
USINT BAGHDAD

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PDEV, IZ, CU
SUBJ: IRAQI-CUBAN RELATIONS

REF: A). BAGHDAD 1548; B. HAVANA 1999

1. BEARING ON REFTEL A REPORT OF SADDAM HUSSEIN ATTENDANCE AT CUBAN RECEPTION, GRANMA, JULY 25, REPORTS ARRIVAL IN CUBA OF NAIM HADDAD, MEMBER OF BAATH PARTY NATIONAL DIRECTORATE, ACCOMPANIED BY LATIFF SAID JOSSEN, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE. HADDAD IS REPRESENTING IRAQ AT WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL AND CELEBRATION OF XXV ANNIVERSARY OF CASTRO'S ATTACK ON MONCADA BARRACKS. IF OUR MEMORIES ARE CORRECT, IT WAS NAIM HADDAD WHO ANNOUNCED EXECUTION OF COMMUNISTS IN IRAQI ARMY TO WESTERN PRESS.

2. ALTHOUGH NO REPORT OF CASTRO MEETING HAS YET BEEN PUBLISHED, HADDAD, UNLIKE ANY OTHER FOREIGN VISITOR, WAS MET AT AIRPORT BY CASTRO'S PERSONAL AIDE DR. JOSE MIYAR, IN ADDITION TO POLITBURO MEMBER PEDRO MIRET WHO JUST RETURNED FROM IRAQ. (FYI NOTE ALSO THAT CASTRO MADE UNUSUAL APPEARANCE AT IRAQI EMBASSY RECEPTION HERE, JULY 17. END FYI.)

3. COMMENT: IRAQIS HERE HAVE BEEN UPSET OVER ERITREAN
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SITUATION, AS WELL AS PDRY AND AFGHANISTAN COUPS. THEY ALSO APPEAR CONCERNED WITH CASTRO'S MOVES TOWARD YASSER ARAFAT (WHO IS GUEST OF HONOR AT WORLD YOUTH FESTIVAL) AFTER CASTRO'S EARLIER CONTACT WITH IRAQI-ORIENTED GOERGE HABBASH AT TIME OF MENGISTU VISIT. BUT, JUDGING FROM ATMOSPHERICS IN BAGHDAD AND HAVANA, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IRAQI AND CUBAN LEADERSHIP ARE NOW LOOKING TOWARD LIMITING DAMAGE TO THEIR

RELATIONS.

LANE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978HAVANA02189
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780314-0089
Format: TEL
From: HAVANA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978074/aaaaadje.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BAGHDAD 1548, 78 HAVANA 1999
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1946345
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI-CUBAN RELATIONS
TAGS: PDEV, PEPR, IZ, CU
To: STATE BAGHDAD
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/de643570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014